

FORRES COMMUNITY WOODLAND TRUST



Annual General Meeting held at Forres Academy
7.30pm on 9th November 2016

MINUTES & ACTION POINTS

Item	Minute	Action
1.	<p>Present: Donald Wright (chair), Eddie Tomkinson (treasurer), Wilson Metcalfe, Gareth Whyment, Steve Hull, Peter Graham, Gisela MacFarquhar (minutes)</p> <p>Apologies: Susan Conti, Dan Puplett,</p> <p>Apologies from Trust members:, Mrs C. Suttie, Mr George Alexander, Mr Fabio Villani, Mr R. Coffey, Mrs Lorna Cresswell</p> <p>Members in attendance: 26 (including trustees)</p>	
2.	<p>Minutes of last AGM. The minutes of the meeting held on 11th November 2015 were presented and agreed as an accurate record, proposed by Jane Johnston, seconded by Peter Graham.</p>	
3.	<p>Chairman's Report. The chairman's report was read by Donald Wright. He thanked his fellow trustees and all members of the Trust for their continued support.</p>	
4.	<p>Treasurer's Report. The treasurer's report was read by Eddie Tomkinson. The accounts were adopted Stuart Johnston, seconded by Gareth Wymant.</p>	
5.	<p>Election of Trustees. The following Trustees were confirmed – Steve Hull, Gareth Wymant, Dan Puplett. Tom Ireland was elected to the Board of Trustees, proposed by Eddie Tomkinson, seconded by Gisela MacFarquhar.</p>	
6.	<p>Subscriptions. Subscriptions remain as in the previous year.</p>	
7.	<p>AOB. Trust members made a number of comments and suggestions regarding bird boxes, litter, dog fouling and fundraising.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members or local primary schools could be approached for sponsoring bird boxes. • It has been observed that young birds in bird boxes are attacked by woodpeckers. Boxes made from “woodcrete” are more durable and may deter woodpeckers. • The person who has offered to build squirrel boxes can also build bird boxes. • At Newforres and Muiry where bins for dog fouling are provided these are being used. The problem is that the very full and heavy bags have to be removed by volunteers. In Sanquhar where no bins are provided people tend to take the deposits away. • The provision of a general waste bin at the shelter at Sanquhar has been deferred as a bin might itself be a target for vandalism. • Dog walking businesses who have been seen using Muiry and Newforres 	

	<p>could be asked to make a contribution.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any organisations, whether they are commercial or voluntary, cannot be charged for their use of the woodlands under the Freedom of Access Code but could be encouraged to make voluntary contributions. • Cycle Scotland has already been approached about some form of voluntary contribution for the use of the bike track for mountain bike events. However, the Trust wants to avoid putting pressure on organisations who encourage young people to use the woodlands. <p>The Board will explore the suggestions made by Trust members.</p> <p>Steve Hull pointed out that the growth of bracken in the Coffin Field has been greatly reduced due to volunteers slashing it in spring, Nick Molnar's use of his horse in the summer and the cutting done by the Moray Council in late summer. He asked if someone could be found who would be interested in using the cut grass in the Coffin Field.</p>	Board
	<p>The official part of the meeting closed at 9.00pm. The date of the next AGM will be sent out in due course.</p>	